MUDS AGM

Monday 15 October 2013, 6pm in X5B 132

**Present:** Tom Platt (Returning Officer), Anna Kosmynina (President), Nicola Amys (Secretary), Mark Slaven (Treasurer), David Yao, Nigel Khine, Rose Torossian, Rochelle Amys, Arash, Jacob Rock, Daniel Dummer, Amit Battacharjee, Ryan Thalari, Steph Fehon, Dhanya Mani, Nandini Bajaj, Lachlan Umbers (postal vote), Nick Horgan, Mike Zhang, Tanzia Hasan (non voting), Luke Verduci, Lachlan McGrath (arrived at 7.08pm).

**Agenda:**

1. Attendance
2. Outline of agenda
3. Vote on constitutional ambiguity
4. Urgent quorum amendment
5. Approval of past minutes
6. Reports for outgoing office bearers

a. Treasurer

b. Secretary

c. President

1. Constitutional Amendments
2. Election of new executive

a. President

b. Secretary

c. Treasurer

d. General Officers

1. Dom’s life membership
2. Any other business

**Outline of Agenda**

Anna: speaking time will be 1-2 minutes

Steph: we were not given standing orders so we should not be bound to timing requirements

Mark: maximum times not stipulated

Anna: standing orders weren’t sent out in the notice- not sure if they were required to be, however I have discretion so am giving them now

Steph: is there a limit on the amount of question that someone is allowed to ask?

Anna: I am willing to be lenient

Steph: should not be a limit on the number of questions asked

**Constitutional Ambiguity**

Anna: when the constitution is ambiguous then the exec vote first and if it is not unanimously resolved then it is taken to the AGM

Mark: we can vote now or take it to director of clubs and societies

Anna: we must provide 7 days notice of AGM guide, can be interpreted as inclusive or exclusive of day of AGM. If we interpret it as exclusive then we can’t hold this meeting. Does anyone have any questions?

Michael: inclusive or exclusive?

Mark: inclusive

*Anna: I propose that we interpret all deadlines in the constitution as inclusive*

*Steph: I second*

*17 in favour and one abstention*

*Motion passes*

**Urgent Quorum Issue**

Anna: the next thing is to change the quorum requirements. It is a huge struggle to get people here.

Nigel: are we going to decide the specific number today?

Anna: yes

Mark: i have tacked this change onto the end of an amendment so it is constitutional. The actual amendment is ‘approval by acclamation at AGMs’- you can approve the minutes from the last meeting or a non-controversial point by clapping

Ryan: who decides an appropriate level of acclamation?

Steph: a majority of people

Mark: if it is not obvious then you take a vote

Steph: this is for non-controversial motions

Mark: I need approval to amend this amendment (half the room). *Mark receives this support*

Changes will be made to 1/3 of the society’s financial membership with 10 physically present. This is because people sometimes need to leave the meeting but break quorum. It is a struggle to get people here. Membership also dwindles by the end of the year, eg. Required to become a financial member to go to Easters but these people drop off. Financial membership is no longer indicative of the society.

Luke: does this take effect now?

Mark: we can adopt it to apply now if we want.

*I would like to propose that the amendment by acclamation is adopted immediately.*

*Luke seconds*

*18 in favour; amendment passes*

**Approval of previous minutes**

Anna: this is last year’s minutes. Sarah was going to submit the report after the meeting but never did

Mark: she sent me a spreadsheet but a lot of the figures were incorrect.

*Anna: I propose that we accept the minutes but make a recommendation that people chase up missing reports*

*Passes through acclamation*

*Anna: these are the minutes from the EGM held this year. I propose that we acclaim the minutes*

*Passes through acclamation*

**President’s Report**

Anna: thank you to everyone for helping me this year. 3 teas to worlds and 1 adj. Moved up to rank 40 from 45. Continued easters selection policy based on team dynamic and development. 8 teams and 8 adjs. 3 adjs broke. Australs: 3 teams 2 adjs. Women’s: 3 teams, 2 adjs. 1 team and 1 adj broke at women’s- huge achievement as first time we broke a team in a while. Held autumn round robin and holding mac mini. This weekend’s mini will be the biggest we have ever held. Weekly internals for training and development. Lots of new people every week. May be a result of different marketing of society and extended reach of society. No weekend training days- full calendar but difficulty booking rooms. Ran two schools days, had some problems. Junior schools day has been moved later in the year due to room booking issues. We had a school complain to us and the uni but we are now in a serious and productive discussion with the uni about how we book rooms. Largest debating stream at camp and dropped the public speaking stream. Most diverse range of people institution wise (5 different unis present). Tentative offer of sponsorship but a prospectus has not been sent out. This is a persistent problem and i recommend the next exec look at. Sent out two issues of POI which were great. Handover has been written up for a number of roles but fine tuning is still needed.

Any questions?

Ryan: we are 39th in the world

**Secretary’s Report**

Nicola: Membership was 533 is now 562 members- up by 29. Result of two major intakes- O week and Mac Fest. As usual, need to focus on engaging first years and retention for semester 2. Communication with exec- held regular meetings and published minutes. Also lots of email discussions and motions passed. Email discussions are often lengthy though and are very arduous to minute. This should be changed. Communication with members- facebook page. 401 likes, used for regular updates, MUDS events and creating events pages for people going to particular tournaments. Around 250 views per status. Newsletter sent out about every month. Changed format to make it easier to read and more aesthetically pleasing. Anna set up new website which is fantastic. Very user friendly in terms of updating website and accessing information. Our own site where we can post upcoming tournaments, minutes, debating blog that Lachlan wrote.

**Treasurer’s Report**

Mark: unfortunately my report is not as happy as the previous two as finances have been a disaster.

Two big things I attempted to fix: I wanted to get better banking. I was a representative of the SAF Board and tried to fix the banking system. I don’t have access to our money without several signatures or transaction records and cant send money on any day but Wednesday. This has mostly been fixed. Steph was at a meeting today and they said that we will get a debit card for important transactions and remove red tape.

Our deficit was $4,192 this year. Last year’s surplus was $5,000 . This means we spent $9,192 more than we earned. This year’s revenue was $7,744. Last year’s was $17,292. This is a 55% markdown. Last year we did not gain sponsorship from an anonymous donor and it is unlikely this will happen again. The potential sponsorship deal we had was for Junior school’s day which has not occurred yet. The other money lost was due to schools days. We earnt less money from our schools days as a result of unexpected cancellations and the fact that junior schools day has not occurred yet. We have gone into talks with the uni to get rooms earlier but more effort and time needs to go into planning these days. From a financial perspective, we need to make $4,200 more than we did this year to spend the same amount on subsidies. If we want to be more comfortable we need to go up by $6,000. To have last year’s spending measures we need $7,000- we called this austerity measures at the time. This does not include the school’s day at the end of the year. What we need to do is put more time and effort into things that give a financial and membership return and drop those that don’t. Reduce camp to a training day and focus on school’s days instead. More attention on finances as we are not running at a sustainable level.

Any questions?

Anna: can you please elaborate on why efforts towards camp took away from other money making measures?

Mark: the exec members worked hard on camp but one of these members should have spent that time on schools day instead. Had the effort been redirected then junior schools day may have gone ahead

Arash: can you tell me about this donation system?

Mark: we have a prospectus that was handed out last year but not this year. It sets up different sponsorship arrangements. The donation last year was for $2,500 and asked for nothing in return, this was the used for subsidies. It is up to next year’s exec to send out a prospectus. I apologise for not spending more time on sponsorship this year.

Dan: the society doesn’t exist for the purpose of making money so we shouldn’t divert effort things from things that emphasize training and other development goals. I agree that school’s days are volatile but aren’t necessarily a trend. School’s training days were run a few years ago and require less training but can make money too. Camp has had a bigger footprint than easters in the last two years and is principally important, but also involves more people from outside the society than in it. There is scope to run camp for profit.

Mark: I understand that. We could run camp for profit but it takes a lot of effort to run. Our attendance from other institutions would never get more than 20 individuals. There are more profitable initiatives.

Rose: have we received all money from schools?

Mark: we have asked for it but haven’t received all of it yet.

Steph: worlds teams have been substantially limited- we were only allocated 1 team and this is likely to occur again in the future. We should put money into worlds. The top three people were prevented from going to worlds due to financial constraints. The subsidy should have been kept the same as last year. When we have restricted places at IV tournaments, it is even more important that we send the top debaters along. Therefore subsidies should be maintained.

David: non-macquarie students should pay more for camp

Anna: thank you for putting thought into how we direct our money. This is usually decided at executive meetings so an AGM is not necessarily the correct platform.

David: will we be cutting our spending?

Mark: that is something the current exec will look at

Amit: despite all difficulties, this is an excellent kept report so thank you to Mark.

Ryan: mark has put a lot of effort into our relationship with the university.

**Constitutional Amendments**

Mark: I have three constitutional amendments

1. Email minutes

As Nicola alluded to, it is arduous and impossible to minute. Some are 70 emails long and tens of thousands of words. Email minutes were introduced last year to deal with pressing matters. We stopped holding meetings and passed motions over email instead. The email chains were also quite exclusive.

This amendment creates a higher standard for things to be discussed over email.

Anna: a lot of things that we passed over email needed to be done in a few days. I think they are already used with reasonable discretion. The extra burden doesn’t necessarily change anything,

Mark: we have had less physical meetings

Anna: to have a meeting you need to build up an agenda. I don’t see these things as linked

Mark: if you don’t see the burden as changing then there is no need to vote against it. The vote can be taken over email but will be affirmed at the next meeting and reasons for/against will be tabled then. An individual was invited into the email chain but another individual also wanted to give his opinion. For the purpose of transparency people can act as proxies.

Lachlan: Is ‘notice’ for the beginning of the discussion?

Mark: Yes – when first proposed.

Anna: I’m concerned about the conversation spilling out and maybe becoming malicious over socail media.

Steph: Have the notice on facebook, but get them to email the exec instead of posting

Mark: That’s an operational issue, not a const issue. Also, people will get angry anyway.

Nigel: I’m concern about the social media aspect. Can we make it via the official page, not just instagram etc.

Mark: That’s a red herring – shouldn’t be worried about it. There are loads of exceptions and interpretations anyway. The exec needs to agree on that medium.

(Steph leaves)

Anna: Did you mean email?

Mark: Other mediums are calling (impractical), website isn’t frequented. Email is out since these things may happen reasonably often. We can’t spam people.

Luke: can we add the wording via ‘relevant’ social media?

Mark: or should we say ‘official’ social media accounts?

Rose: I suggest a disclaimer saying that this is an official website

Mark: I believe the next exec will choose facebook.

*Anna: I propose that we vote in favour of this amendment*

*Steph: I second this*

*17 in favour, 1 abstention*

*Amendment passes*

1. 7/8 Days

Mark: At least 8 days is now required, except for notice requirements. The inclusive/excusive issue is dealt with by the next amendment. This has nor eal controversy to it

*Mark: I would like to propose this amendment*

*Lachlan: seconds*

*17 in favour, 1 abstains*

*Amendment passes*

1. Casino Amendment

Mark: the exclusive/inclusive issue has been of concern. I am adding a section towards the interpretation of the constitution I have given an example of how it would work to assist interpretation. I have chosen 4am because people it will be rare that someone will miss the time by a few minutes.

Luke: can we change it to the casino amendment as the morning shift starts then

Mark: it is now the casino amendment

Amit: midnight is reasonable. If people are late it shows that they just don’t care.

Mark: a whole range of other factors could affect them getting it in at midnight. This is the best time frame.

*Mark: I would like to propose that we accept this amendment*

*Nicola: seconds*

*17 in favour, 1 against, 1 abstention*

*Amendment passes*

**Elections**

Tom: tonight will go in the order of president, secretary, treasurer and then general officers. Ryan is up first.

President

Ryan: I’ve been with MUDS for three years and in each of these years I’ve seen MUDS do some good things and drop some others. I was 2014 to be a greatest hits year or MUDS. The main imperative is to attract new members and retain them. This involves hosting more events. The more things we do raises more awareness and keeps people engaged. I think that a lot of people that sign up and drop off think that MUDS is easters plus Monday nights at uni. They think that only experience people go to tournaments. I am the best candidate because of my experience. I understand the different types of members and their perceptions of ideas. MUDS members exist on a spectrum. There are experienced people hacks and those in between. There are mentors and exec members. We need to make sure that MUDS caters to all types of members. It is easier to focus on extremes but should never be done at the expense of members in between. I would continue advertising through social media. I would push for tournaments and minis, training days. I would push for a mentor training day. Inclusiveness with socials that are more diverse to keep people interested and engaged. I would work with other societies on campus to do exhibition debates and foster the relationship with the university. I have represented MUDS and worked with the university for jubilee events and advocating on the SAF Board. I think that camp is really important and uniquely MUDS. I can host regular monthly meetings and chase people out on things.

Luke: you say you want next year to be a greatest hits but that costs more money. How will we get more money than usual?

Ryan: I would advocate for SAF committee representation. Not all things require money though- we could have external presenters to give a lecture at internals.

Steph: you were on the outgoing exec and aware of revenue which is vital for retaining members. Given the right down in profits, why did you not mention schools days in your platform and do you think this is a key area for reform?

Ryan: this is not something I had considered until this meeting. We do need to address schools days. It is a matter of how organised the society and university can be. I would give lots of notice and appeal to more schools.

Anna: You share d a lot about your ideas for the society but one of the roles is to make the ideas happen. Can you give ideas of when you have been successful in implementing stuff in MUDS?

Ryan: as social media officer I helped to facilitate online awareness through facebook pages. I also held the camp portfolio and proposed different ideas for the camp program in the different time frame.

Dan: can you share a failure from this year and tell us what you have learnt and how you will imprve

Ryan: As externals officer my role was to organise trials for major tournaments. For Australs, someone else had to find an external selector. This was not from a lack of trying- I tried 9 different people I learnt the importance of the exec working together. I wrote a 5 page guide for externals, including how to find an external selector.

Mark: I’d like to note my concerns about your ideas to increase revenue. We’ve had a huge problem getting things done this year. Camp and minis were smaller. Internals and tournament attendance were the same; the only thing that grew was mac mini. At the end of this meeting, two of the most experienced exec members will no longer be on the exec. How will you get the man power and expertise to run events next year?

Ryan: I would like to see more diversity- that is what I meant by greatest hits. In terms of man power, we can spread things out. Set clear goals to facilitate organisation on all levels.

Mark: what managerial experience do you have in getting other people to do work for you?

Ryan: I’ll be honest, I haven’t had that experience. That doesn’t mean that I can’t do that.

Amit: in terms of retention, the greatest problem is that people don’t seem to connect with the more experienced members. How do you plan to make MUDS more approachable?

Ryan: part of the role is to direct the exec and experienced members in the society. I would remind people to engage with others in the society. Have more socials and give members more notice. Training days.

Nigel: what are your thoughts on the public speakers society?

Ryan: it is a good thing. we have empowered other people to start initiatives. We can invite them to our events. The more societies we engage with the more awareness.

Nigel: What are your thoughts on Mac Easters 2015?

Ryan: I will not be a dictator so that would require discussion.

Rochelle: How will you retain people in the society who first sign up

Ryan: holding more events. More socials, different types of events, training days

Steph: I agree that we have excellent mechanisms to help novices develop. You said that the hacks are being focused on as well. How are we focusing on them beyond asking them to mentor novices given that novices already have the same opportunities?

Ryan: dichotomy between hacks and novices through involvement. Push for training days to develop intermediate skills.

Steph: how does hacks going off on their own mean that the society is focusing on them? How do we help them?

Ryan: external speakers at internals, hack debates.

Mark: at the moment, there is only so much the exec can do. Would you prioritise camp or schools day?

Ryan: I can’t make that decision right now and look at what was more likely to bring us income and make us sustainable. I am not entirely sure what is better for us. Camp is good for recognition and membership but schools day is for finances.

Mark: more diversity may mean diluted participation. Is this really going to work?

Ryan: events wont all be at once, they will be at different times and varied. Training of novices will foster a culture of MUDS’ concern with overall development. Social media- the use of fb pages has been a step in the right direction. Post statuses with more description about internals.

Nandini: I think the first thing that I should say is that I am extremely invested in debating- it was the first society that I signed up for. I connected with people here straight away. A lot of other people don’t necessarily connect straight away and we need to focus on this. If we don’t increase in members we will not be a sustainable society. I want to implement more socials- other societies have more of these. We can hold these socials nearby. I want to push for stronger connections with other societies like GLP, TEDX, etc. I would also encourage lecture bashing. We need more accountability in keeping deadlines. We need regular meetings.

Steph: you are aware of the importance of revenue from school days. Why did you not mention them in your platform?

Nandini: this is more specific for the schools portfolio. I would help to make sure that goals and deadlines were being met. I would also pursue other avenues of revenue, this would include bake stalls, sponsorship and the university. We need a brainstorming session to look out of the box.

Mark: you want more events, especially socials. We have dropped training days, schools days. Camp was smaller. Internals and tournament attendance was the same. Mac mini grew. Last time we held an official social not a single exec member showed up. How do you plan to get more manpower?

Nandini: I can draw on what I have learnt from experienced members in the society. I want to become more innovative. I would look at different ways to market socials, get people to invite friends to come along. Fresh faces can mean newer ideas.

Mark: we didn’t have enough willing people to execute a vision this year.

Nandini: we can ask people to be part of a subcommittee if they are interested

Anna: one of the roles of the president is to actualise a vision. Please point to examples of here you have been able to implement visions.

Nandini: as marketing officer we came up with creative ideas like postcards for easters. Also bake stall.

Anna: You talked about having learnt from schools day. What have you learnt that you can apply to being president?

Nandini: you need to be understanding of other people’s positions and respond to complaints professionally. Making sure deadlines are clear to everyone involved. I would distribute work as evenly as possible

Nicola: you mentioned getting people to stick to tight deadlines; however your nomination for president was late. How can we trust that you will be able to do things on time?

Nandini: my nomination was late due to different factors due to who would send things through. At the same time I wasn’t too far off so I still respected the deadlines. I have attended to other action items immediately. I was attending to emails for schools days during Australs.

Nigel: how do you view the public speakers society?

Nandini: the society has grown out of us. They are no longer reliant on us. we can organise events ith them but they don’t need to be a sibling society for us.

Nigel: mac Easter 2015.

Nandini: we should have team breaking at easters before we hold it to demonstrate that we are capable.

Dhanya: you spoke about social engagement. How do you retain through development?

Nandini: hosting guest speakers at internals

Luke: in the past two years we could send 8 teams to easters. How would you feel about sending teams to easters. Would you prioritise inclusion or experience?

Nandini: meritocratic basis.

Luke: If we could afford it but it would be irresponsible, what would you do?

Nandini: I would send 7 teams. All aspects of the debating society are just as important.

Amit: people can’t always connect with other people. How would you inspire others to be approachable and open?

Nandini: I could organise a meeting beforehand and encourage others to meet beforehand. Contingent social at easters, scav hunt to get people to make friends and connect.

Rochelle: we have a large drop out rate- how do you encourage people to stay in the society

Nandini: socials and internals. Roomings, scav hunt or first years. Encouraging attendance.

Rochelle: what about people that sign up?

Nandini: socials. You then have a reason to keep seeing people

Steph: at the moment we give additional experiences to novices. How would you foster development for the hacks?

Nandini: look into a secondary internals for hacks, mentor training days, promote novices going to minis with novices so hacks can debate together.

Mark: your only plan to increase revenue is with the prospectus. Schools days have lost substantial revenue under your term. Would you cut camp or junior schools days if you had to?

Nandini: from a financial perspective I would cut camp. There has been a drop of revenue under my tenure due to a number of factors. If it wasn’t just financial reasons then I would still cut camp because schools days provide funding for subsidies that allow people to go to tournaments.

Mark: the only managerial experience you have had is with schools days

Nandini: I haven’t been a manager at 19. I did the best that I could with schools days which were run to a fairly high standard. I also have experience in the apple store which was to direct staff and ensure they were doing what they were told.

*Ryan: 5*

*Nandini: 11*

*Nandini is elected as president*

Secretary

Nigel: what would you like to continue and what would you like to change?

Ryan: The newsletter is easier to read so I would continue that. Secretary and socials media should be integrated.

Lachlan: how long is a reasonable period of time for minutes to be published?

Ryan: the sooner the better. I would aim for as quickly as possible, hopefully within a couple of weeks.

Lachlan: would you ever be able to produce the minutes in another language, eg Swahili

Ryan: I would outsource

Amit: do you think there would be resentment for not being elected as president?

Ryan: I would never run for secretary if id dint think I could do it

Luke: what sort of voice should the society have?

Ryan: a nice one. We are inclusive and welcoming.

*14 Yes, 0 No*

*Ryan is elected as secretary*

Treasurer

Luke: What sort of treasury experience do you have?

Jacob: I am doing a degree in applied finance with a huge accounting element. I have s trong theoretical understanding

Steph: how thorough would you be able to commit enough time to menial tasks?

Jacob: I have an inordinate amount of time and would be more able to do this

Mark: it is often difficult to get money off people. To what degree would you sink?

Jacob: I am prepared!

Mark: we have suffered a deficit and will probably enter a choke period around May. What are you going to do about borrowing money?

Jacob: I’m not entirely sure that will happen. If there is, I can approach whoever needs to be approached and determine an appropriate source of funds. I am happy to do whatever is necessary.

Ryan: people question your credibility- how will you be able to chase people up?

Jacob: what I say in a social context is not indicative of my professional behaviour.

Ryan: you aren’t intimidating

Jacob: regular emails. I would then look towards penalty rates ad discuss these with the exec

Nigel: what changes?

Jacob: three things- have accounts ready and available, show income and expenditure, group spending on outsider liability class

Nandini: how confident are you with spreadsheets that are easy to read?

Jacob: I would produce reports that are simple

Lachlan: in the event that you die in a car accident or there is a vote of no confidence, is there another person that could stand and do the job as treasurer?

Jacob: probably nandini, but other people would do it in a different way.

Luke: we currently send a lot of teams to tournaments. Would you consider sending half as many teams?

Jacob: there are areas where we can cut subsidies before we cut teams. Can also make spots available for lower teams but not subsidised

*15 Yes, 0 No*

*Jacob is elected as treasurer*

General Officers

Lachlan: I am reasonable when it comes to policy production. I am approachable

Dhanya: MUDS has given me a lot. There are ways that i can meaningfully contribute. I’d love to do something to give back

Mark: considering you live far away do you want to nominate yourself?

Dhanya: yes

Amit: I would like to give something back and better the society

Rochelle: I enjoy debating and want to get involved. I have a lot to offer and am enthusiastic

Nicola: given that you haven’t been involved this year how do you propose to be involved next year?

Rochelle: I will participate as much as I can and go to all of the events

Nandina: you are busy, how can you commit?

Rochelle: I will prioritise exec over social arrangements and will do my best to attend

Luke: I have been on several executives and not done anything official. I am an active member of the society. I will not be active next year

Nicola: what do you propose to do next year?

Luke: I will like facebook statuses and respond to emails

Mark: I am the exec member you need and the one you deserve. I would like to bring the new portfolio of absentee exec member and reduce amount of discussion by not being present

Steph: why won’t you graduate

Mark: it’s not my fault. I am graduating.

Luke: if you were going to vote for me, you should vote for mark instead

Nigel: I was comps and finance officer this year. you get to know people and form friendships, sense of community. I will be co-convening mac mini. I can offer so much more.

Nicola: you have now been elected as director of competitions, can you manage both?

Nigel: New comps role to reduce work for director. I envisage myself to be more of a university liaison officer.

Steph: I’m a hack. I love the society and spend an inordinate amount of time doing stuff for the society

Dan: I heard you were going on exchange, I also heard you were planning on phasing out

Steph: I’m not going on exchange anymore. I was going to run for a big three position but that involves more work and I wanted to focus a bit more on uni. I am fully available to help out in a single portfolio

Nicola: what kind of baked goods can you provide us with?

Steph: yes

*Lachlan: 14*

*Dhanya: 14*

*Amit: 5*

*Rochelle: 10*

*Nigel: 13*

*Steph: 14*

*Luke: 1*

*Mark: 1*

*General Officers: Lachlan, Dhanya, Rochelle, Nigel, Steph*

**Dom’s Life Membership**

Mark: the last thing is Dom’s life membership

Dom was my mentor for easters 4 and a half years ago. He convinced me to join MUDS and I have a huge personal debt to owe to Dom. The level of recognition that he got us at IV tournaments. He was THE successful adjudicator for our society for years. He was our first big adjudicator expert. He widened our social circle with other universities. Dom has so many friends that we would not have had without him. We are very well connected with other universities. He was a really good exec member- he created and hugely expanded the externals role. He taught us that there is no other airline than Emirates. The last thing and most important is his fantastic voice of objection. Always willing to stand up and challenge/reality check every idea produced ability to question and willingness to stand up for what he believes in has made the society a better place.

Steph: Dom’s dedicaction to adjudicating has been an incredible rewarding experience at internals. He is one of the people that has pushed adjudication as something we should value and prioritise. Some of our best achieving members are ones that achieve through adjudication. We can credit Dom with this. When the attitude was one of not wanting to adj, Dom took people aside and taught them how to do that. Something that makes tournaments so much fun is the ties we have with other universities. Dom has pushed for this. Debating is not just about yourself or Mac Uni but about having a great network of friend with similar interest around Australia. He has also been called in for favours, like getting a worlds champion to run our trials.

Luke: I would like it noted that Dominic Eugene Berl had more objections than agreements with motions- voice of reason

Ryan: Dom personally gave a lot of feedback

*Mark: I would like to propose that we add Dominic Eberl to life membership*

*Steph: seconds*

Luke: can we abstain? It’s what Dom would want

*Passes unanimously*